

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above-identified patent application in view of the amendments above and the remarks following is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-30 are in this case. Claims 10-15 and 25-30 have been rejected under § 102(e). Claims 1-9 and 16-24 have been rejected under § 103(a).

The claims before the Examiner are directed toward a method for controlling access to a communication network by processes running on a host device, and to a channel adapter that implements the method. To enable the processes to access pairs of work queues that couple the host device to the network, each process is assigned a single respective doorbell address in an address range, in an address space of the host device, that is occupied by the channel adapter.

§ 102(e) Rejections – Parthasarathy et al. ‘392 in view of Joshi et al. ‘050

The Examiner has rejected claims 10-15 and 25-30 under § 102(e) as being unpatentable over Parthasarathy et al., US Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0184392 (henceforth, “Parthasarathy et al. ‘392”) in view of Joshi et al., US Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0199050 (henceforth, “Joshi et al. ‘050”). Applicant presumes that the Examiner intended to reject claims 10-15 and 25-30 under § 103(a) rather than under § 102(e). The Examiner’s rejection is respectfully traversed.

The above-identified patent application claims priority from US Provisional Patent Application No. 60/283,108 that was filed on April 11, 2001, prior to the June 22, 2001 priority date of Joshi et al. ‘050. Therefore it is improper for the Examiner to cite Joshi et al. ‘050 against the above-identified patent application, and the arguments presented in defense of claims 10-15 and 25-30 in the Communication that

accompanied the Request for Continued Examination filed on July 24, 2006 remain valid.

Even if it had been proper for the Examiner to cite Joshi et al. '050 against the above-identified patent application, the arguments presented in defense of claims 10-15 and 25-30 in the Communication that accompanied the Request for Continued Examination filed on July 24, 2006 would have remained valid. The aspect of the present invention that renders the present invention allowable over the art cited by the Examiner is that the present invention assigns doorbell addresses to processes running on a host device on a per-process basis, rather than on a per-work-queue-pair basis as in the prior art. In particular, claims 10-15 and 25-30 recite assigning a single doorbell address to such a process that has been allocated a plurality of work queue pairs. As discussed in the Communication that accompanied the Request for Continued Examination filed on July 24, 2006, Parthasarathy et al. '392, as best understood, assign doorbell addresses to processes running on a host device on a per-work-queue-pair basis. The aspect of the present invention against which the Examiner has cited Joshi et al. '050 is that the doorbell address is in an address range in an address space of the host device. In the Communication that accompanied the Request for Continued Examination filed on July 24, 2006, Applicant amended independent claims 10 and 25 to recite this aspect of the present invention only to make it clear that the doorbell recited in claims 10 and 25 is not an address of a communication channel, in order to show the irrelevance of paragraphs 0032 and 0063 of Parthasarathy et al. '392 to the present invention. Applicant's basic argument stands: Parthasarathy et al. '392 neither teaches nor hints nor suggests assigning doorbell addresses to processes running on a host device on a per-process basis.

**§ 103(a) Rejections – Parthasarathy et al. ‘392 in view of White ‘425 and further
in view of Joshi et al. ‘050**

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-9 and 16-24 under § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Parthasarathy et al. ‘392 in view of White, US Patent No. 6,058,425 and further in view of Joshi et al. ‘050. The Examiner’s rejection is respectfully traversed.

As discussed above, the above-identified patent application claims priority from US Provisional Patent Application No. 60/283,108 that was filed on April 11, 2001, prior to the June 22, 2001 priority date of Joshi et al. ‘050. Therefore it is improper for the Examiner to cite Joshi et al. ‘050 against the above-identified patent application, and the arguments presented in defense of claims 1-9 and 16-24 in the Communication that accompanied the Request for Continued Examination filed on July 24, 2006 remain valid.

Even if it had been proper for the Examiner to cite Joshi et al. ‘050 against the above-identified patent application, the arguments presented in defense of claims 1-9 and 16-24 in the Communication that accompanied the Request for Continued Examination filed on July 24, 2006 would have remained valid, for the reasons discussed above in the context of the rejection of claims 10-15 and 25-30.

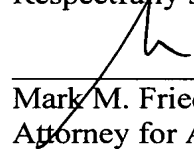
Amendments to the Specification

The paragraph beginning on page 14 line 10 has been amended to reflect the fact that the patent application filed May 31, 2001 and entitled “DMA Doorbell” has issued as US Patent No. 6,735,642.

No new matter has been added.

In view of the above amendments and remarks it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 1, 10, 16 and 25, and hence dependent claims 2-9, 11-15, 17-24 and 26-30 are in condition for allowance. Prompt notice of allowance is respectfully and earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



Mark M. Friedman
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 33,883

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